REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 29, 2006.

Claims 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shiota et al (US Patent No. 4,943,854).

Per the above amendment, claim 9 has been amended to include the feature of "a size of a changeable effective region is smaller than that of a frame", the feature of "portions of first digital video data and second digital video data placed in the effective region are selected in every frame", and the feature of "only the selected portions of the first digital video data and the second digital video data are processed into a stream of packets to transmit the packet stream".

Differences between the present invention defined by the amended claim 9 and Shiota are described herein.

The present invention teaches an image capture and transmission system. In the inventive system, first digital video data corresponding to a frame and second digital video data corresponding to a frame are obtained from output signals of the imaging devices. To reduce the volume of data to be transmitted, all of the first and second digital video data are not transmitted. Rather, only portions of the first and second digital video data are selected and transmitted. For the selection, a changeable effective region having a size smaller than that of a frame is used, and only portions of the first and second digital video data placed in the effective region are selected. Accordingly, only required portions of the first and second digital video data can be transmitted while the volume of data transmitted is reduced.

In contrast, Shiota discloses a video surveillance system for selecting a video signal of a frame from video signals of a plurality of TV cameras. For example, as shown in Fig.

2, eight sequential occurring frames of video signals from three TV cameras are time shared multiplexed at each field (see column 2, lines 55-61). More specifically, the most important video signal corresponding to one frame is selected from three video signals of three TV cameras for each frame (see column 2, lines 61-68). In this case, the volume of data transmitted every frame is equal to that corresponding to the size of one frame.

Therefore, Shiota fails to teach or suggest the setting of at least one changeable effective region having a size smaller than that of a frame, the selection of portions of first digital video data and second digital video data placed in the effective region in every frame, and the processing of only the selected portions of the first digital video data and the second digital video data into a stream of packets.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 9 is clearly patentably distinguishable from the teachings of Shiota. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

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